

CHAPTER 57
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING
AND EQUIPMENT FUND

661—55.1(17A,77GA,ch1222) Establishment of fund. There is established in the fire marshal division the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund. The fund, to the extent of appropriations made available in each state fiscal year, shall provide support for the training and equipment needs of volunteer fire fighters. Funding is available to individual fire departments for equipment and to organizations or individuals delivering training to support courses available at no cost to volunteer fire fighters receiving the training or to their respective departments.

55.1(1) Advisory committee. The fire marshal may establish a volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund advisory committee of persons knowledgeable about the training and equipment needs of volunteer fire fighters and volunteer fire departments to advise on allocation of moneys from the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund, including the selection of recipients in competitive situations.

55.1(2) Reserved.

661—55.2(17A,77GA,ch1222) Allocations.

55.2(1) *Administrative allocation.* Each year, the fire marshal shall allocate a portion of the funds appropriated to the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund for administration of the fund, including personnel expenses. A portion of the administrative allocation shall be made available to the fire service training bureau to defray the cost of maintaining records of course attendance and completion by volunteer fire fighters, and for related expenses.

55.2(2) *Allocation to fire service training bureau.* The fire marshal may allocate a portion of the moneys appropriated to the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund in any year to the fire service training bureau for the purpose of delivering training courses offered by the fire service training bureau to volunteer fire fighters at no cost to the volunteer fire fighters or their respective fire departments.

55.2(3) *Allocation for equipment purchases.* The fire marshal may allocate a portion of the moneys appropriated to the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund in any year to equipment purchases for volunteer fire departments. Awards of funding to volunteer fire departments for equipment purchases shall be on a competitive basis within guidelines published in an announcement of the availability of these funds.

55.2(4) *Allocation to community college consortium.* The fire marshal may allocate a portion of the moneys appropriated to the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund in any year to a consortium of community colleges to deliver training to volunteer fire fighters at no cost to the fire fighters receiving this training or to their respective fire departments. These funds shall be administered in accordance with an agreement entered into between the department of public safety and community colleges pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 28E.

661—55.3(17A,77GA,ch1222) Awards to private providers of training. Funds appropriated each year to the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund which remain after the allocations set forth in rule 661—55.2(17A,77GA,ch1222) have been implemented shall be awarded on a competitive basis to private providers of training to provide training to volunteer fire fighters at no cost to the fire fighters receiving the training or to their respective fire departments.

55.3(1) Funding requests. Requests for funding of training courses instructed by private persons shall be submitted to the Volunteer Fire Fighter Training and Equipment Fund, Fire Marshal Division, Department of Public Safety, 217 East 7th, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, in a format specified by the fire marshal. Requests for funding in any state fiscal year must be received on or before July 15 following the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1.

EXCEPTION: If moneys which have been previously unexpended become available for additional training courses during the course of a fiscal year, notice shall be given to certified fire service instructors of the availability of these moneys. In this event, the deadline for receiving applications shall be as stated in the notice of availability.

55.3(2) Instructor qualifications. Any person instructing a training course paid for by the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund shall be certified as a fire service instructor by the fire service training bureau or another organization recognized by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications, P.O. Box 690632, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269, or the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, 1700 W. Tyler, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-8075.

EXCEPTION: A person who has applied to the fire service training bureau for certification as a fire service instructor I and who is actively pursuing such certification may instruct a training course paid for by the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund, provided that the instruction is delivered under the direct supervision of a person who is currently certified as a fire service instructor I by the fire service training bureau or by another organization recognized by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications or the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.

55.3(3) Course approval. Each course paid for by the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund must have previously been approved by the fire service training bureau. Any person who is certified as a fire service instructor I or who is actively pursuing certification as a fire service instructor I should contact the fire service training bureau for information about the course approval process at the following address: Fire Service Training Bureau, 3100 Fire Service Rd., Ames, Iowa 50011-3100.

55.3(4) Course availability. Any course which is approved and funded from the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund must be available to any volunteer fire department in the state of Iowa.

55.3(5) Notification. Each person applying for moneys from the volunteer fire fighter training and equipment fund for delivery of training to volunteer fire fighters shall receive notification indicating whether the request has been approved or denied. Any approval of a request for funding is contingent upon the execution of a contract between the department of public safety and the provider of the proposed training course or courses setting out specific terms and conditions for the delivery of the proposed course or courses. Any person whose request for funding is denied may appeal that decision to the commissioner of public safety by filing a written notice of appeal within 14 calendar days of the date on which the notice indicating denial of the request is dated. Appeals of denials of funding shall be treated as contested cases and processed according to the procedures set out in rules 661—10.301(17A) through 661—10.332(17A).

These rules are intended to implement 1998 Iowa Acts, chapter 1222, section 19(8).

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CHAPTERS 56 to 58

Reserved